

ESSO Hands-on Course On Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy and Gastrectomy

In partnership with University Medical Center Utrecht

Utrecht (NL), 15-16 October 2026

Chairs

Richard van Hillegersberg, University Medical Center Utrecht, NL

Jelle Ruurda, University Medical Center Utrecht, NL

Co-Chairs

Ronald Bleys, University Medical Center Utrecht, NL

Domenico D'Ugo, Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore,
Rome, IT

Faculty members

Benjamin Babic, Sana Klinikum Offenbach, Offenbach, DE

Philip Chiu, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, CN

Peter Grimminger, Universitätsmedizin Mainz, Mainz, DE

Naruhiko Ikoma, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, USA

Takahiro Kinoshita, National Cancer Center Hospital East, Kashiwa, JP

Jasmina Kuvendjiska, Universitätsklinikum Freiburg, Freiburg, DE

Pieter van der Sluis, Erasmus Medisch Centrum, Rotterdam, NL

Programme

Thursday, 15 October 2026 – Minimally Invasive Gastrectomy (MIG)

09:00 – 09:00 Opening & Introduction of the live RAMIE surgery case
R. van Hillegersberg

09:10 – 09:30 Introduction to the Surgical Anatomy of the Stomach
R. Bleys

09:30 – 09:45 Laparoscopic versus Open Gastrectomy
D. D'Ugo

- 09:45 – 10:00 Lymphadenectomy in MIG
T. Kinoshita
- 10:00 – 10:15 Anastomotic techniques in MIG
P. van der Sluis
- 10:15 – 10:30 General discussion+ Live RAMIE surgery
- 10:30 – 10:45 Coffee Break*
- 10:45 – 11:00 MIG and RAMIE: step by step
- 11:00 – 11:15 Robot-assisted Minimally Invasive Gastrectomy (RAMIG): Tips, Tricks, & Pitfalls
- 11:15 – 11:20 Introduction to hands on practical training session
F. Lammes
- 11:20 – 11:40 General discussion + Live RAMIE surgery
- 11:40 – 12:15 Lunch*
- 12:15 – 12:30 Transfer to the Department of Anatomy
- Hands-on practical training**
- 12:30 – 14:30 Minimally Invasive Gastrectomy: Dissection
- 14:30 – 15:00 Coffee Break*
- 15:00 – 17:00 Minimally Invasive Gastrectomy: Reconstruction

Friday 16 October 2026 – Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy (MIE)

- 08:30 – 08:35 Opening
J. Ruurda
- 08:35 – 08:55 Introduction to the Surgical Anatomy of the Esophagus
R. Bleys
- 08:55 – 09:10 Lymphadenectomy During MIE: The More The Better?
J. Kuvendijkska

- 09:10 – 09:25 The current status of MIE and RAMIE
P. Grimminger
- 09:25 – 09:40 General discussion + Live RAMIE surgery
- 09:40 – 09:55 How to set up a MIE program
B. Babic
- 09:55 – 10:15 Coffee Break*
- 10:15 – 10:30 Anastomotic techniques for (Robot-assisted) MIE
P. Chiu
- 10:30 – 10:50 General discussion + Live RAMIE surgery
- 10:50 – 11:05 Robot-assisted Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy (RAMIE): step by step, tips,
tricks and pitfalls
J. Ruurda
- 11:05 – 11:20 Introduction to hands on practical training session
S. Spruijt
- 11:20 – 11:45 General discussion + RAMIE surgery
- 11:45 – 12:15 Lunch*
- 12:15 – 12:30 Transfer to the Department of Anatomy
- Hands-on practical training**
- 12:30 – 14:30 Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy: 1st hands-on session
- 14:30 – 15:00 Coffee Break*
- 15:00 – 17:00 Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy: 2nd hands on session